

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:DSKINNEY

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TO USMISSION NATO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 173615

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, DA

SUBJECT: EXERCISE TEAMWORK 76: INVOLVING DANISH
PARLIAMENTARIANS

1. WE BELIEVE THERE COULD BE CONSIDERABLE VALUE IN
EXPOSING A GROUP OF DANISH PARLIAMENTARIANS TO A MAJOR
NATO EXERCISE THIS SUMMER OR FALL, AND THAT SUCH EXPOSURE
COULD INFLUENCE THEIR VIEWS ON DEFENSE ISSUES AND THUS
HELP IN OBTAINING A SATISFACTORY RENEGOTIATION OF THE
INTER-PARTY DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT AND IN AVOIDING
DANISH DEFENSE CUTS. TEAMWORK 76 WOULD SEEM AN APPROPRIATE
EXERCISE ON WHICH TO PEG SUCH A PROGRAM.

2. TEAMWORK IS FOCUSED ON THE NORTHERN FLANK AND THE
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SOVIET THREAT FROM THAT QUARTER. IT IS LARGE IN SCALE

AND PRIMARILY NAVAL THOUGH IT INCLUDES AIR ELEMENTS AND AN AMPHIBIOUS LANDING. THE EXERCISE IS HOSTED BY A NORDIC COUNTRY (NORWAY) AND INCLUDES MAJOR PARTICIPATION BY THE UK, US, AND NETHERLANDS IN A NATO CONTEXT. THE EXERCISE WILL TAKE PLACE FROM SEPTEMBER 10-23. CSCE NOTIFICATION WILL BE MADE BY NORWAY AND CSCE OBSERVERS WILL BE INVITED BY NORWAY.

3. ONE OF THE LARGEST MARITIME EXERCISES EVER HELD BY THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE, TEAMWORK 76, WILL INVOLVE OVER 200 SHIPS, SOME 30 SUBMARINES, AND APPROXIMATELY 300 AIRCRAFT, FROM BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, THE FRG, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, THE UK, AND THE US. UNITS FROM THE FRENCH ATLANTIC FLEET WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE. THE EXERCISE WILL BEGIN IN THE ATLANTIC, THE ENGLISH CHANNEL AND BALTIC AREAS, AND CONCLUDE WITH A LARGE-SCALE COMBINED AMPHIBIOUS LANDING IN NORWAY. TEAMWORK 76 IS ONE IN A SERIES OF LARGE NATO MARITIME EXERCISES SCHEDULED EVERY FOUR YEARS. THIS YEAR'S EXERCISE, TAKING PLACE OVER A MAJOR PORTION OF THE 12 MILLION SQUARE MILE AREA OF THE ATLANTIC COMMAND OF NATO, INVOLVES SOME 80,000 PERSONNEL OF WHICH ABOUT 15,000 ARE GROUND TROOPS.

4. THE MAJOR ASPECTS OF TEAMWORK SHOULD BE OF INTEREST TO DANISH PARLIAMENTARIANS: THE DEPLOYMENT OF REINFORCEMENTS BY SEA, AND THE MOVEMENT OF VITAL SUPPLIES FROM NORTH AMERICA TO EUROPE BY HIGH SPEED CONVOY, THE LATTER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A MAJOR EXERCISE. THE BENEFITS OF THEIR EXPOSURE TO THIS MAJOR NATO MANEUVER WOULD INCLUDE A FRESHENING OF THEIR CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE SOVIET NORTHERN PRESENCE AND OF THE ALLIED CAPABILITIES FOR DETERRENCE AND RESPONSE ON THIS VITAL FLANK OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE.

5. THE DANISH LEGISLATORS COULD PERHAPS 1) BE INCLUDED IN A CSCE OBSERVATION TEAM, 2) BE INVITED SPECIFICALLY AND SEPARATELY BY THE CIVIL OR MILITARY LEADERSHIP OF NATO, 3) COME AT THEIR OWN INSTIGATION, PERHAPS AT THE INFORMAL SUGGESTION OF EMBASSY COPENHAGEN; 4) PERHAPS MOST EFFECTIVELY BE INVITED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY. CONFIDENTIAL

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WE WOULD ENVISION MEMBERS OF MAJOR PARTIES SEEING NAVAL AND AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS AND BEING BRIEFED, PERHAPS BY AFNORTH STAFF AND/OR NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS, ON NORDIC DEFENSE ISSUES AND NATO NORTHERN FLANK POLICY AND PLANNING.

6. WE WOULD WELCOME COMMENTS FROM ADDRESSEES ON THIS IDEA, AND ANY SUGGESTIONS ON SPECIFIC STEPS TO IMPLEMENT

IT.

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